



SOLENT
LOCAL
 ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP

Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held on Friday 23rd January 2015
 08:00 - 10:00
 At Solent Hotel, Whiteley

Present	In Attendance
Gary Jeffries (Chairman)	Stuart Baker
Chris Allington	Crispin Dick
Cllr Donna Jones	Nicola Simmons
Philippe Jouy	Keri Torney
Dave Lees	Chris Ward
Cllr Keith Mans	David Williams (On behalf of Solent LEP Accountable Body Legal Department)
Anne-Marie Mountfield	
Don Nutbeam	Apologies
Nick Ridehalgh	Stuart Hill
Cllr Ian Stephens	Simon Letts
Jan Ward	Russell Kew
Cllr Seán Woodward	
	Presentation from:
	Gill Kneller, Charles Burt & Ben Earl

Item		ACTION
1.	Welcome & Apologies Gary Jeffries welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies Apologies were noted from Stuart Hill, Simon Letts and Russell Kew.	
2.	Minutes of meeting held on Friday 21st November 2014 Minutes agreed from the previous meeting and signed by Gary Jeffries.	
3.	Matters arising These were considered and included an update on proposed Ministry of Defence (MoD) land disposals and the Enterprise Zone.	

4.	<p>Verbal updates from Board Leads</p> <p>a. Strategic Land & Infrastructure Board Dave Lees advised that the Solent Strategic Land and Infrastructure Board, chaired by Bruce Mann met in December 2014. The key outputs from the meeting are to bring a list of full land assets together in a single document and to look at the priorities of these sites. The 2nd output is to have a consolidated list of key transport schemes and an investment plan for the Solent area. The Board is due to meet again on 23rd February 2015 and aligned to the Board is the Solent LEP Land, Property and Infrastructure Delivery Panel who are due to meet in early March 2015.</p> <p>b. Communications & Website Development Following the completion of the tender process, Brickwall were appointed and work was now underway on a new website.</p> <p>c. Finance, Funding and Performance Management The Board received an update in relation to the ongoing due diligence work relating to the projects funded under the growth deal. This work is expected to conclude late February and a further update will be provided at the next Board meeting. There was also a progress update on the new Inward Investment function.</p> <p>d. Solent Marine & Maritime Steering Group (SMMSG) The SMMSG held their 2nd meeting on 11th December 2014. The group have commissioned a waterfront employment sites study and they received an update on the Ben Ainslie Racing (BAR) initiative. Marine Conservation Zones were also discussed and the group agreed that it was important to respond to the consultation which is expected to be published shortly.</p>	
5.	<p>Executive Update The following items were discussed as part of the executive update</p> <p><u>A. The National LEP Network and local Greater Thames Valley (GTV) LEP network</u> It was noted that at a regional level there is a Greater Thames Valley LEP Network (GTV7) which Solent LEP are a member of, along with Coast to Capital, Enterprise M3, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Thames Valley Berkshire and Buckinghamshire Thames Valley. This has provided an opportunity for cross LEP working and collaboration on common issues such as transport.</p> <p><u>B. Business Engagement & Business Support</u> The board agreed to support the creation of a delivery panel to support this key area of work and a draft terms of reference were agreed.</p> <p>Proposals to support the continuation of a business support hub and one stop shop were also discussed. Funding will be made available through the Solent Growth Deal for 2015/16 it was agreed to tender for this work to facilitate it starting early in 2015/16.</p>	

C. RGF

The Board received an update on the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) schemes including Bridging the Gap, Solent Futures, the Enterprise Zone (EZ) fund and the Isle of Wight (IOW) fund. The year end accountants reports were also considered for the Solent Futures, IOW and EZ RGF schemes.

D. Local Growth Deal (LGD)

An update was presented on LGD2 which was expected to be concluded by the end of January.

LGD1 (Solent Growth deal published July 2014) funded schemes were now being consulted on with business cases published on the Solent LEP website. The funding agreement from Government to support LGD 1 was also awaited.

As part of LGD 1 Solent LEP were awarded £2m for 2015/16 to support the creation of the Solent Growth Fund and the Board were asked to approve the funding guidance so that the fund can be launched in March 2015. The **Board AGREED** the Solent Growth Fund guidance documentation ahead of the new fund launch in March 2015.

E. European Union Structural Investment Funds (ESIF)

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) will be convening the Solent Area Investment Committee (AIC) in shadow form for the first time on 27 January 2015.

DCLG have indicated that they may issue a call for bids for the regional development component in March 2015 and plans were underway to arrange a Solent EU briefing event for organisations in the Solent area.

F. Solent LEP Consultation Draft Response to Proposal to use a Legislative Reform Order to give local authorities greater flexibility in forming a combined authority or economic prosperity board.

Government published a consultation paper on its proposals to amend legislation relating to combined authorities and economic prosperity boards. The **Board AGREED** to send in a response to the consultation by the due date.

G. Governance and Management – Solent LEP Governance Structure

Solent LEP Delivery panels

The **Board APPROVED** the terms of reference for the Innovation Delivery Panel.

Retirement of the directors

In accordance with article 32 of the Company's Articles of Association ("Articles") at the Company's third Annual General Meeting (AGM) all directors must retire from office and following on from the Board meeting we will hold the AGM where we are inviting the:

- (a) Local Authority (P) members to re-elect the "P" directors;
- (b) Business (B) members to re-elect the "B" directors; and
- (c) Higher Education (H) members to re-elect the "H" director.

The Board were aware that the current Executive (E) Director (who is also the Chief Executive of the Solent LEP) will, like the other directors of the LEP, be required to tender her

	<p>resignation as a statutory director; at the AGM immediately following the Board meeting on 23 January 2015. This is in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Solent LEP. The Board were also aware that the power to re-appoint her or to appoint a new E director is vested in the remainder of the board as a whole (not in the members of the Solent LEP).</p> <p>The Board AGREED the re-appointment of the current E director as E director following the AGM, such decision to take effect immediately following the AGM (on condition that the majority of the current board are re-appointed by the members or otherwise remain in office following the AGM).</p>	
6.	<p>Solent Energy Strategy presentation - Energy Opportunities for the Solent Region - 'A shared challenge for us all'</p> <p>Gill Kneller, Charles Burt and Ben Earl presented the Solent Energy Strategy to the Board including an overview of the Mini Stern report.</p>	
7.	<p>AoB</p> <p><u>Large Structures Composite Centre</u></p> <p>Rob Stevens is helping to support the work of this project and the development of the Business Case to make a more compelling case on the economic benefits of the centre and the benefits of being based in the Solent Region and the Board received a progress update on this.</p> <p>No further business. Meeting closed.</p>	

Meeting closed at 10:15